

Worksheet 3. “The Solitude of Latin America”

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teacher: _____

Class: _____

Directions:

Read Gabriel García Márquez’s [lecture](#), “The Solitude of Latin America,” delivered on the occasion of his acceptance of the Nobel Prize in Literature (1982). Then answer the following questions.

1. What fantastic images did García Márquez use to open his speech drawing from an account by a navigator on Magellan’s circumnavigation of the globe? What other episodes from the era of exploration does he bring in? What is the main point of including these details in his speech?
2. What kinds of events have shaped modern Latin American history?
3. Discuss García Márquez’s statement describing the impression modern day Europeans have of this reality characterized by “unearthly tidings of Latin America, that boundless realm of haunted men and historic women, whose unending obstinacy blurs into legend.”
4. What did García Márquez mean when he suggested that European nations shouldn’t be “measuring us with the yardstick that they use for themselves”?
5. How does this speech contribute to your understanding of García Márquez use of magical realism?